

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S:PSBRIDGES:GK

APPROVED BY S/S:BRIDGES

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 181489 TOSEC 190027

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING REPEATS LUSAKA 1875 ACTION SECSTATE 22 JUL 76

QUOTE S E C R E T LUSAKA 1875

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: NKOMO'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN

REF: STATE 179080 (NODIS)

1. IN ABSENCE OF JOSHUA NKOMO WHO HAS NOT RPT NOT
YET RETURNED TO LUSAKA SINCE DEPARTING JULY 18 I TALKED
WITH HIS AIDE EDWARD NDLOVU AT RESIDENCE ON JULY 22 AND
ENDEAVORED OBTAIN FROM HIM ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED IN
REFTEL.

2. NDOLVU DEPARTING LUSAKA JULY 24 TO MEET UP WITH NKOMO

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IN MOGADISCIO FROM WHERE THEY WILL DEPART FOR SAUDI ARABIA

AND IRAN. HE SUGGESTED REVISED, EARLIER DATES OF JULY 30 AND AUGUST 5 FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH KING AND SHAH, SCHEDULING THEM FOR WHICHEVER OF TWO DATES IS MOST CONVENIENT TO THESE CHIEFS OF STATE.

3. NDOLVU SAID NKOMO ATTACHES "GREAT IMPORTANCE" TO BOTH OF

THESE VISITS AS IT APPARENT HE SEEKING LARGEST FOREIGN FINANCIAL SUPPORT EVER FOR ZIMBABWE LIBERATION FROM THESE TWO SOURCES. GENERAL THRUST OF CONVERSATION SUGGESTED REQUEST ON THESE TWO MIDDLE EAST LEADERS WILL BE IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. THERE WAS NO WAY OF ASSESSING FROM NDOLVU WHETHER NKOMO CONFIDENT OF THIS SUPPORT OR HAS ENDORSEMENT OF ANY AFRICAN OR OTHER STATES IN APPROACHING THESE LEADERS. STOP-OFF IN SOMALIA COULD HAVE SOME BEARING ON THIS QUESTION BUT I IN NO POSITION TO JUDGE.

4. AS TO WHAT NKOMO EXPECTS IN WAY OF "RESPONSE" FROM SECRETARY, NDLOVU SAID HE COULD ONLY CONJECTURE AS HE NOT RPT NOT A PARTY TO PRIVATE CONVERSATION WHICH NKOMO AND SECRETARY HAD AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL IN LUSAKA MORNING OF APRIL 27 JUST BEFORE SECRETARY DELIVERED HIS SPEECH AT STATE HOUSE. NDLOVU SAID HE "SUSPECTED" NKOMO ASKED FOR US FINANCIAL SUPPORT, BUT HE HAD NO IDEA OF SPECIFICS. NDLOVU ALSO SUSPECTS THAT NKOMO'S PRIVATE TALK WITH ASST SECTY SCHAUFLE IN LUSAKA JULY 12 MAY ALSO HAVE TOUCHED ON USG WILLINGNESS TO OFFER FINANCIAL HELP.

5. NDLOVU POINTED OUT THAT NKOMO'S MAJOR AND MOST PRESSING FINANCIAL NEEDS WERE RELATED TO PREPARATIONS FOR AND ORGANIZATION OF PARTY CONGRESS INSIDE RHODESIA IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER. NDLOVU ALSO NOTED THAT ANC WORK RELATED TO NKOMO-SMITH NEGOTIATIONS COST PARTY 45,000 RHODESIAN DOLLARS. HE ESTIMATED THAT UPCOMING CONGRESS WOULD COST AROUND 35,000 RHODESIAN DOLLARS.

6. JUST BEFORE LEAVING NDLOVU ASKED IF ANY USG NEWS OF REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA OR IRAN COULD BE PASSED THROUGH OUR EMBASSY IN MOGADISCIO. HE UNABLE TO OFFER CONTACT ADDRESS THERE AND I UNABLE TO SAY WHETHER THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO SECRETARY. WHEN HE POINTED OUT THAT MESSAGE
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THROUGH EMBASSY MOGADISCIO WOULD SAVE RETURN TO LUSAKA BEFORE GOING ON TO MIDDLE EAST, I SAID I WOULD REFER QUESTION TO WASHINGTON AND THAT HE MIGHT SIMPLY GIVE OUR AMBASSADOR THERE A CALL AND INQUIRE IF THERE ARE ANY MESSAGES FROM WASHINGTON FOR NKOMO WITHOUT REFERENCE TO SUBJECT OR REASON. HE SAID HE WOULD DO THAT EVEN THOUGHT I CAUTIONED HIM THERE NO RPT NO ASSURANCES MESSAGE WOULD BE WAITING. IF NONE ARRIVES HE ALSO WONDERED IF OUR EMBASSIES IN DHAHRAN AND TEHRAN COULD ACCOMMODATE

IN SIMILAR WAY. I SAID ONE WAY OR ANOTHER I WOULD TRY TO GET
REPLY ON THIS POINTS BEFORE HE DEPARTS LUSAKA ON JULY 24. "RESPONSE"
TO QUESTION OF US FINANCIAL HELP TO NKOMO WOULD BE EXPECTED,
NDLOVU SAID, THROUGH EMBASSY LUSAKA FOLLOWING ON NKOMO'S
TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST WHICH NOW MOVED UP.

7. AS NDLOVU WAS GOING TO HIS CAR HE SAID HE RECALLED FULL NAME
OF NKOMO'S BIGGEST PRIVATE SUPPORTER AND BOOSTER IN THE US --
MILLIONAIRE ARTHUR KRIMM OF NEW YORK WHO IF I RECALL WAS OR
STILL IS CONNECTED WITH MOTION PICTURE BUSINESS AND HAS INDEED
GIVEN NKOMO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.
WILKOWSKI
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TOSEC, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 07/22/76, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE181489
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PSBRIDGES:GK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760004-0782
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760731/aaaabbbv.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 179080
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NKOMO'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, OVIP, SA, IR, US, RH, ZA, ANC, (NKOMO, JOSHUA), (NDLOVU, EDWARD SILONDA), (KRIMM, ARTHUR)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006